

About the Authors

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Beñat Bilbao-Osorio is an Associate Director and Senior Economist with The Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network at the World Economic Forum. In this capacity, he carries out research on national competitiveness issues with a special focus on Latin America and Iberia. In addition, he analyzes the role of innovation and information and communication technologies in fostering competitiveness, and is co-editor of *The Global Information Technology Report*. Prior to joining the Forum, Dr Bilbao-Osorio worked at the Directorate-General for Research & Innovation of the European Commission, where he was responsible for the economic analysis of European Innovation Policy; at the Directorates of Science, Technology and Industry, and Education of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on innovation-related topics; and at the International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO) on international trade competitiveness analysis. His main research fields are innovation, skills, and economic development, where he has published extensively. Dr Bilbao-Osorio holds a degree in Economics from the Universidad Comercial de Deusto (Spain), a Master in European Studies from the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium), and a PhD in Economic Geography from the London School of Economic and Political Science (UK).

Ciara Browne

Ciara Browne is a Director with The Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network team, where her responsibilities include managing partnerships—including institutional and corporate partnerships—and outreach for both competitiveness and risks reports. Ms Browne also oversees the process of implementing the Executive Opinion Survey, which is conducted worldwide and completed by around 15,000 business executives. Ms Browne is involved in the production process of reports on the team and works closely with the Forum's media team in conveying the findings of the various competitiveness reports to the media and the public. Before joining the Forum, she served for several years with the International Organization for Migration, where she worked for a mass claims processing program. She has a BA (Hons) degree from the University of Manchester (UK).

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Gemma Corrigan is a Senior Associate with The Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network at the World Economic Forum. Her responsibilities include the development of a repository of competitiveness practices, and she contributes to the research and drafting of various reports, including *The Global Competitiveness Report* and the *Global Risks* report. Prior to joining the World Economic Forum, she worked in the Division of Country Programmes at the International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO), where she focused on export strategies and issues related to trade competitiveness. Her areas of expertise include new institutional economics, development policy, inequality, and inclusive growth. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and History from Barnard College/Columbia University in New York and a Master in Political Economy from the London School of Economics (UK).

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Margareta Drzeniek Hanouz

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Thierry Geiger is an Associate Director and Senior Economist with The Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network at the World Economic Forum. He leads the competitiveness practice on Asia. As head of quantitative research, he supervises the development and computation of a wide range of composite indicators. He is also responsible for the Network's technical assistance and capacity-building activities. His areas of expertise are private-sector development, international trade, and data science. Mr Geiger is co-editor of *The Global Enabling Trade Report* and co-author of *The Global Competitiveness Report* and *The Global Information Technology Report*, and is the lead author of several regional and country studies. A Swiss national, Mr Geiger holds a BA in Economics from the University of Geneva, an MA in Economics from the University of British Columbia, and was a Fellow of the Forum's Global Leadership Programme. Prior to joining the Forum, he worked for the World Trade Organization and Caterpillar Inc. He is co-founder of Procab Studio, a Geneva-based IT company.

Tania Gutknecht

Tania Gutknecht is Community Manager with The Global Competitiveness and Benchmarking Network at the World Economic Forum. Her responsibilities include managing the network of Partner Institutes worldwide and driving the Executive Opinion Survey process. She also is responsible for the production of *The Global Competitiveness Report* and related benchmarking studies. She collaborates closely with the Forum's media and digital content teams in conveying the findings of the competitiveness reports to the public through press, web, and social media. Prior joining the Global Competitiveness Network team, Ms Gutknecht worked with the Centre for Business Engagement at the World Economic Forum, where she designed high-profile events and projects to address the challenges of inclusive social and economic growth; built relationships with C-suite executives of partner companies; and oversaw the operation-management responsibilities of a team of coordinators. Ms Gutknecht holds an MA in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva) as well as an MSc in International Management from the University of Geneva.

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Cecilia Serin

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